

DURHAM NUCLEAR HEALTH COMMITTEE (DNHC) MINUTES

Location

Durham Regional Headquarters
605 Rossland Road E, Whitby

Meeting

In an effort to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, this DNHC meeting was a virtual meeting so that presenters, members, and guests could present and participate without meeting together in the Regional Council Chambers.

Date & Time

January 20, 2023 at 1:00 PM

Members that Participated

Dr. Robert Kyle, Durham Region Health Department (DRHD), (Chair)
Lisa Fortuna, (DRHD)
Phil Dunn, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)
Raphael McCalla, Ontario Power Generation (OPG)
Loc Nguyen, OPG
Deborah Kryhul, Public Member
Veena Lalman, Public Member
Susan Ebata, Public Member
Dr. Barry Neil, Public Member
Jane Snyder, Public Member
Dr. Lubna Nazneen, Alternate Public Member
Hardev Bains, Public Member
Deborah Kryhul, Public Member
Alan Shaddick, Alternate Public Member

Presenters & Assistants

Paulo Correia, DRHD (Secretary)
Michael Munro, Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) (Presenter)
Lee Casterton, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) (Presenter)
James Kilgour, Durham Emergency Management (DEM) (Presenter)
Scott Preston (OPG) (Presenter)
Carrie-Anne Atkins (OPG) (Presenter)
Anjali Pandya, DRHD
Regional Chair John Henry
Sara Irvine, OPG
David Keene, MECP
Kathy Bleyer
Helen Tanevski, DRHD
Roger Inacio, Durham Region Information Technology Division

Regrets

Mary-Anne Pietrusiak, DRHD
Dr. Kirk Atkinson, Ontario Tech University (OTU)
Janice Dusek, Public Member

Dr. Kyle opened the virtual meeting and welcomed everyone.

Land Acknowledgement by Dr. Kyle.

Dr. Kyle mentioned that observers who have questions concerning presentations today, should email or discuss their requests with Paulo Correia, DNHC secretary, at dnhc@durham.ca.

Paulo Correia will follow-up with each of the presenters after the meeting with the observers' questions off-line to prevent any duplication of emails and responses. Paulo will report back to Dr. Kyle the outcomes of the questions received.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Revised Agenda was adopted.

4.4 Potassium Iodide Pill Working Group presentation by CNSC moved up to 4.2.

2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the November 18th, 2022 meeting were adopted as written.

1. Correspondence

3.1 Dr. Robert Kyle received a resignation email from DNHC member Dr. David Gorman, effective November 18, 2022. Dr. Gorman enjoyed serving on the DNHC for the past 11 years. Dr. Kyle emailed Dr. Gorman on November 18, 2022 thanking him for his years of service to the Committee.

- Dr. Kyle thanked and acknowledged Dr. David Gorman's service during the meeting.

3.2 Dr. Robert Kyle's office received the Minutes of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (NGS) Community Advisory Council virtual meeting held on September 20, 2022, and the Joint Pickering NGS and Darlington NGS Community Advisory Council virtual meetings held on November 15, 2022.

3.3 Dr. Robert Kyle received a report from Paulo Correia. One email was received on November 18th from C. Drimmie. The email was referred to the appropriate presenter and organization. She has received a response.

3.4 Dr. Robert Kyle received a letter from Mark Hughey, General Manager, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL), Historic Waste Program Management

Office, thanking Dr. Robert Kyle and the DNHC for the intervention letter of support received for the CNSC Public Hearing on the Consolidated Port Granby Project and Port Hope Area Initiative licence renewal, held on November 22 and 23, 2022. Mark's letter was dated December 5, 2022.

- 3.5** Dr. Robert Kyle's office received a news release from the CNSC on December 20th. The CNSC renewed the waste nuclear substance licence for [CNL's Port Hope Area Initiative](#), which includes the Port Granby Project, until December 31, 2032.

4. Presentations

A copy of the streamed DNHC meeting that includes the presentations, can be found in [committee archived streamed meetings](#). Please scroll to the bottom of the page for the DNHC streams.

4.1 Updates by Emergency Management Office (EMO), concerning its Significant Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Activities in 2022 and its Plans for 2023 in Durham Region (Michael Munro, Deputy Chief, Nuclear, Radiological & Scientific Response Programs, EMO)

Michael Munro reviewed EMO's nuclear Emergency Preparedness Activities in 2022 and 2023 Plans.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- EMO Emergency Preparedness Activities and Plans are based on the 5 Pillars of Emergency Management:
 - To ensure Building Resilient Communities Across the Province and Keeping Ontarians Safe
- EMO in Action
- Emergency Management Ontario
- Nuclear, Radiological and Scientific Response Programs (NRSRP)
- NRSRP Branch Mandate
- Ontario's Nuclear Emergency Management Program (NEMP) Roadmap
- Review of the Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (PNERP) Master Plan
- EMO's Potassium Iodide (KI) Pill Discussion Paper –Path Forward
- Emergency Preparedness Review (EPREV) Follow-up mission-June 2023
- EMO Exercise Program Elements
- Huron Endeavour 2022-Emergency Response Exercise

M. Munro highlighted EMO's Nuclear, Radiological and Scientific Response Programs (NRSRP) Mandate:

- Develop and maintain a provincial nuclear emergency management program.
- Coordinate provincial scientific activities, emergency plans, programs, exercises, procedures and policies to support Ontario's off-site responsibilities

in the preparedness for, response to, and recovery from a nuclear or radiological incidents.

- Provide advice and assistance to a broad range of public sector partners (provincial, federal, municipal, Indigenous) and private sector stakeholders particularly with respect to their nuclear accountabilities under the PNERP.

M. Munro shared that the 2017 PNERP Master Plan is undergoing a detailed review. As part of the review, national and regional indigenous communities and organizations will be consulted. A separate public consultation will be undertaken concurrently with indigenous consultations.

M. Munro stated EMO has assumed the Phase II work of the CNSC KI Working Group and has developed a Discussion Paper examining three issues:

1. The need to supplement the current preparedness measures to facilitate access to KI pills beyond the current KI pill pre-distribution 10 km Detailed Planning Zone (DPZ) area.
2. The need to extend the pre distribution stocks of KI pills from all schools in the 10 km DPZ to all schools in the 50 km Ingestion Planning Zone (IPZ).
3. A provincial strategy for emergency distribution of KI pills at the time of a nuclear emergency.

M. Munro reviewed many EMO exercises occurring in 2023. In 2025, a large-scale nuclear emergency will be conducted with local, provincial, federal and US partners.

M. Munro ended by stating that the goals of these exercises and plans is to test our capabilities and to learn where we are now and where we need to be.

Two questions were posed:

- 1) Will there be outreach to informed civil society such as the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) as well in beginning work on updating the PNERP Master Plan?
 - Michael Munro responded that opportunities will be provided through public consultation.
- 2) Can you please provide contact information or links for the public to review and provide comments on the PNERP?
 - Information regarding the public consultation on the 2023 Draft PNERP Master Plan will be available this spring at the following link: [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#).
 - M. Munro shared that the Nuclear Emergency Management Coordinating Committee (NEMCC) is meeting on February 2nd. More details and public communication will follow the meeting and during the review of the PNERP.

Michael Munro or associates will continue to update the DNHC on EMO's Significant Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Activities for Durham Region and the province. More information is available on the [EMO website](#) or email askEMO@ontario.ca.

4.2 Progress Report by Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) concerning its 'Potassium Iodide Pill Working Group' (Lee Casterton, Senior Regulatory Program Officer, Pickering Regulatory Program Division, CNSC)

Lee Casterton provided an update on the KI Pill Working Group.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Background
- Ingestion Planning Zone (IPZ)
- Working Group Membership
- Mandate.
- CNSC Website
- Phase 1 Report
- Approach for Phase 2-EMO/MOH Proposal
- Next Steps

L. Casterton stated, at the CNSC Public Hearing on the Pickering licence renewal in June 2018, intervenors raised concerns on KI pill pre-distribution and distribution in an emergency in the IPZ. KI Working group established.

L. Casterton stated that the working group membership included the CNSC, Ontario Ministry of Health, EMO, OPG, Durham Region, various other municipalities within 50km of nuclear facilities, and Peterborough a designated Host Community under the PNERP.

L. Casterton stated that Phase 1 of the plan was completed on January 26, 2022.

L. Casterton reviewed that in June 2022, EMO and MOH proposed that Phase 2 objectives be completed by the province through the update to the PNERP. In August 2022, the proposal was shared with the CNSC.

L. Casterton reviewed that in October 2022, the CNSC concurred with the new approach and proposal. The working group received the EMO discussion paper in December 2022.

L. Casterton shared that the next steps include posting the completed Phase 1 report on the KI Working Group webpage. The webpage will also include new terms of reference to address EMO's involvement and alignment with the PNERP review and update.

Question:

A question was asked for Lee Casterton to clarify role of the CNSC KI Advisory group to date and in the proposed phase II approach?

- The CNSC Senior Advisory Committee was setup to provide advice to the CNSC on the KI Pill Working Group. The advisory group will continue to be

engaged on both KI and other areas of public interest. The advisory group will be engaged for the PNERP review and other CNSC regulatory activities. The CNSC website is being updated and will have additional information posted concerning the advisory committee.

Lee Casterton or associates will keep the DNHC updated on the progress of the Potassium Iodide Pill Working Group transition and CNSC involvement.

For more information, the CNSC website is [nuclearsafety.gc.ca](https://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca) and the Working Group website is: <https://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/resources/emergency-management-and-safety/potassium-iodide-pill-working-group.cfm>. Inquiries can also be made to cnsccinfo@nuclearsafety.gc.ca.

4.3 Progress Report by Durham Emergency Management (DEM) concerning its Significant Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Activities in 2022 and its Plans for 2023 (James Kilgour, Director, Durham Emergency Management (DEM))

James Kilgour provided an update on Durham's Emergency Preparedness Activities.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Nuclear Program Activities
- Nuclear Planning
- Training
- Exercise and Drills
- Committees, Working Groups, and Meetings
- Public Education and Awareness
- Public Alerting Campaign
- Public Alerting Indoor and Outdoor
- Plans for 2023

J. Kilgour stated that a nuclear training package was developed and distributed to Regional Control Group members and alternates prior to the Exercise Unified Command (EXUComm) exercise in February 2022. DEM staff are developing an Intro to Nuclear course. Additional courses to be developed in 2023 include Radiation Basics and Emergency Worker's Centre training.

J. Kilgour shared details about EXUComm in a virtual Regional Emergency Operations Centre and in person at the Emergency Workers Centre. Debrief sessions allow for captures successes, challenges, and items for improvement. Participation in additional drills and established notification procedure also tested and confirmed.

J. Kilgour highlighted all the committees, working groups, and meetings that DEM represents the interests of Durham Region. DEM is involved at the local level and with partners such as EMO, CNSC, and OPG.

J. Kilgour reviewed several public education and awareness initiatives. A nuclear preparedness survey was run in 2021. The information from that survey was used in 2022 to focus initiatives on improving the public's knowledge of emergency preparedness and taking protective action in an emergency. Survey respondents were used as a pilot group for new emergency preparedness material.

J. Kilgour revealed details of a Public Alerting Campaign. New tactics to improve awareness were implemented. Social media impressions used as a new way to measure public awareness. Latest campaign had improved public engagement and pageviews.

Details of the Indoor and Outdoor Public Alerting test was shared by J. Kilgour. The number of calls to the Region have dropped off after the test over the past few years as a result of better awareness of the test.

J. Kilgour reviewed 2023 plans and priorities.

Question:

Dr. Kyle asked J. Kilgour what are the top one or two priorities for DEM.

- J. Kilgour responded that the PNERP review is a big item for the DEM team. DEM has already started working with regional stakeholders on proposed changes to the PNERP. Additionally developing and providing training for nuclear awareness (Intro to Nuclear), radiation training (Radiation Basics), Nuclear Emergency Response Training, and the Emergency Worker Centre training is another priority.

James Kilgour or associates will continue to update the DNHC on nuclear emergency preparedness plans and activities in Durham Region. More information is available on the [DEM website](#) at durham.ca/demo.

4.4 Progress Report by Ontario Power Generation (OPG) concerning its Significant Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Activities in 2022 and its Plans for 2023 in Durham Region (Scott Preston, Senior Manager Enterprise Emergency Management, OPG)

Scott Preston provided an overview of OPG's Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Activities.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Enterprise Emergency Management – Mandate
- Enterprise Emergency Management Pillars
- 2022 Highlights

- 2023 Priorities

S. Preston reviewed OPG's mandate to ensure that they are prepared and have the response capability to mitigate the effects of a nuclear emergency and protect the health and safety of the public, staff, and the environment.

S. Preston shared that there are CNSC requirements and provincial requirements (PNERP) that layout the requirement for nuclear emergency preparedness, emergency management, and responding effectively to an emergency.

S. Preston reviewed OPG's 3 pillars of emergency management program. The pillars challenge the organization to constantly improve their programs.

S. Preston shared 2022 highlights. The highlights include:

- OPG has increased training and emergency event simulations to improve proficiency of the Emergency Response Organization (ERO),
- Drill and exercises,
- Distribution of KI pills and member of KI Working Group,
- Successful "Emergency Management Review Visit (EMRV). This review is completed by the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO).

S. Preston reviewed 2023 priorities that include drills and exercises. OPG will continue to benchmark other industry peers and follow mandated requirements for emergency preparedness.

Scott Preston or associates will continue to update the DNHC with OPG's Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Activities. More information is available at www.opg.com/nuclearsafety.

5. Communications

5.1 Community Issues at Pickering Nuclear and Darlington Nuclear

Carrie-Anne Atkins, Manager, Corporate Relations, OPG, provided an update on Community Issues at Pickering and Darlington and the highlights were:

Pickering Nuclear Operational Performance Update:

- Pickering Units 1, 4, 5, 7 and 8, are operating at or near full power, with Unit 6 in a scheduled maintenance outage.

Darlington Nuclear Operational Performance Update:

- Darlington Units 2 & 4 are operating at or close to full power. Units 1 & 3 are currently in refurbishment.

Project Updates:

Pickering Operations to 2026 and Pickering Refurbishment Feasibility study:

- OPG submitted a letter of intent on December 12th, 2022, to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). The purpose of this letter is to inform the CNSC of OPG's intent to pursue CNSC approval to operate Pickering Units 5-8 to September 30, 2026

Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP) - Licence to Construct Application:

- On December 13, the OPG and DNNP project leaders participated in a virtual Public Information Session. Licence to Construct application was submitted to the CNSC. The remaining supporting information packages will be submitted to the CNSC in sequence over the course of six months.
- On January 19, 2023, a second virtual Public Information Session was held.
- Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) Announcement: the DNNP team is planning for a Friday, January 27 event to announce details around the DNNP IPD model. DNNP team members, stakeholders, the Ontario Minister of Energy and our IPD partners to be in attendance.

Nuclear Sustainability Services – Darlington Re-Licensing:

- The Nuclear Sustainability Services – The ten-year waste facility operating licence ends on April 30, 2023.
- In December 2021, OPG submitted its licence renewal application to the CNSC, indicating the intent to renew this licence for another 10-year period.
- The licence renewal application will be open for a CNSC public hearing on January 26, 2023.

Darlington Refurbishment Project Update:

- The Darlington Refurbishment Project (DRP) continues meet project targets while executing both Units 3 and 1 at the same time.
- Unit 3 was 92% complete as of December 31, 2022.
- Unit 3 reactor assembly and Restart Control Hold Point (RCHP) 2 was successfully completed on November 28. RCHP2 allowed for the loading of new fuel into the reactor which was completed on December 27. RCHP 4 for Primary Heat Transport fill is forecast to complete January 17, 2023.
- Unit 1 achieved 32% completion on December 31, 2022.
- Unit 1 is progressing well through the reactor disassembly phase, with Feeder Tube removal complete and Endfitting removal underway.

Other Community Updates:

- Neighbours Newsletter: the latest newsletter went out over the Winter holiday - next newsletter Spring 2023.
- New Council and Staff Station Tours being planned for all new elected councils.
- Bring Back the Salmon (BBS) Hatchery Launch - Jan. 30: Kickoff BBS Hatchery Launch at Durham Nuclear Info Centre for the launch of the salmon hatchery. Over the next four months; as the Atlantic salmon eggs mature into fry; OPG in partnership with Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Toronto Recreational Conservation Authority and Central Lake Ontario

Conservation will deliver a 4-tier program to two classes (4/5 & 5/6). The program will educate students on the lifecycle of Atlantic salmon through environmental stewardship activities. The final tier includes the release of the salmon fry into a local stream.

- March Break Free Family Skates: From March 13th to March 17th. Free public skating will be offered across Durham Region. Every morning in Pickering/Ajax and afternoon in Oshawa/Clarington.

For more information, Carrie-Anne Atkins, Manager, Corporate Relation, Pickering Nuclear, OPG, can be reached at 416-528-7766 or by e-mail at carrie-anne.atkins@opg.com.

For more information, Lindsay Hamilton, Senior Manager, Corporate Relations and Projects, Corporate Affairs, OPG, can be reached at 905-914-2457 or by e-mail at lindsay.hamilton@opg.com.

6. Other Business

6.1 Future Topics for the DNHC to Consider

Dr. Kyle mentioned the next DNHC meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2023. Theme: The Safe Management of Nuclear Waste.

The Draft Agenda will include:

- Progress Report by the NWMO concerning the Implementation of Adaptive Phased Management and its Site Selection Process for the Long-Term Management of Used Nuclear Fuel in Canada (Derek Wilson, Chief Operating Officer)
- Progress Report by OPG's Nuclear Sustainability Services Division concerning its stewardship of nuclear materials and by-products of nuclear energy (Nuala Zietsma, Director, Stakeholder Relations)
- Progress Report by OPG's Nuclear Regulatory Affairs concerning the Pickering Nuclear Station Units 5-8 Operations to 2026 (Sara Irvine, Director Nuclear Regulatory Affairs)
- Progress report by the Office of the Regional Chair and Chief Administrative Officer concerning the development of the Durham Nuclear Sector Strategy (TBC)
- Progress Report by Ontario Tech University (OTU) concerning, a Potential Class 1 Subcritical Facility at OTU (Dr. Kirk Atkinson, Director, Centre for Small Modular Reactors, Associate Professor & Industrial Research Chair, Department of Energy & Nuclear Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science)

6.2 Scheduled DNHC Meetings in 2023

- April 21
- June 16

- September 22
- November 17

7. Next Meeting

Location

Virtual Meeting

Durham Region Headquarters
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

Date & Time

April 21, 2023 at 1:00 PM

8. Adjournment

2:41 PM